

## Opelika Parks & Recreation Staff Members Receive State Awards

The Mayor got to show a little love for some of our very own employees at the March 7 City Council meeting. Opelika Parks and Recreation was honored at the 2017 Alabama Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) State Conference when two staff members received awards. John Huling received the Merit in Recreation Award and Reid Pope received the Jim Spain Professional of the Year Award.



Mayor Gary Fuller and Sam Bailey recognized John Huling for receiving the Merit in Recreation Award for his work in the department's therapeutic recreation program. Huling coordinates all of Opelika's therapeutic programs including the Special Olympic Swim Team, Expressions of a Brave Heart, Awesome Goals Soccer, Discover Group and Tennis for Fun.



The Mayor and Sam also recognized Reid Pope, recently retired, for receiving the Jim Spain Professional of the Year award, the highest honor given by the Alabama Recreation and Parks Association.